

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IGA-01 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00

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DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN:DLAZAR:PW

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ARA:HARYAN

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D-MR. DUEMLING

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA NIACT IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204794

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, NU

SUBJECT: ANDERSON ARTICLES - SEVILLA-SACASA MEETING
- WITH ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL

1. AMBASSADOR SEVILLA-SACASA CALLED ON ACTING SECRETARY INGERSOLL AT 2:30 AUGUST 27 TO URGE AGAIN CONSIDERATION OF NICARAGUA'S REQUEST FOR STATE DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE. AS BEFORE, THE TWO PRINCIPAL POINTS OF CONCERN HE INDICATED WERE, FIRST, THE POSSIBLE IMPLICATION THAT THE "SECRET U.S. GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT" REFERRED TO BY ANDERSON HAD BEEN PASSED TO ANDERSON BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT, AND SECONDLY, THE INNUENDO REGARDING POSSIBLE MISAPPROPRIATION OR MISUSE OF AID FUNDS TO THE BENEFIT OF PRESIDENT SOMOZA.

2. SECRETARY INGERSOLL EXPRESSED OUR CONTINUED CORDIAL
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FEELINGS TOWARDS THE GOVERNMENT OF NICARAGUA AND OUR DESIRE

FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS WE HAVE ALWAYS ENJOYED. THE ACTING SECRETARY CATEGORICALLY ASSURED SEVILLA-SACASA THAT NO DOCUMENT HAD BEEN PASSED TO ANDERSON BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALTHOUGH, HE STATED, WE OBVIOUSLY CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT SOME INDIVIDUAL, SOMEWHERE DOWN THE LINES DID IMPROPERLY PASS SOME DOCUMENT TO ANDERSON. AT THE SAME TIME SECRETARY INGERSOLL

POINTED OUT THE ABSOLUTE LACK OF INTEREST HERE, FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE, IN THE ANDERSON ARTICLES. HE SUGGESTED THAT, BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE WITH SIMILAR ARTICLES, THERE PROBABLY WOULD BE NO FURTHER INTEREST EXPRESSED UNLESS SOMETHING FURTHER WERE TO HAPPEN TO AROUSE FURTHER OR ADDITIONAL INTEREST IN THE ANDERSON STORIES. HE SUGGESTED THAT A STATEMENT BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT MIGHT VERY WELL HAVE THAT EFFECT. FOR THAT REASON HE URGED THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO SIMPLY LET THE MATTER DIE, AS IT APPEARED TO BE DOING.

3. SEVILLA-SACASA THEN ASKED WHAT THE DEPARTMENT'S REACTION WOULD BE IF PRESIDENT SOMOZA WERE TO SEND A LETTER FORMALLY REQUESTING DEPARTMENT COMMENTS ON THE TWO POINTS OF CONCERN MENTIONED ABOVE. SECRETARY INGERSOLL STATED THAT, OF COURSE, WERE WE TO RECEIVE SUCH A COMMUNICATION WE WOULD BE BOUND TO ANSWER IT. HOWEVER, HE AGAIN COUNSELED THE POSSIBLE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS OF SUCH AN EXCHANGE AND URGED SEVILLA-SACASA TO URGE PRESIDENT SOMOZA TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY BEFORE SENDING SUCH A LETTER. THE ACTING SECRETARY FURTHER URGED THAT SEVILLA-SACASA WAIT AT LEAST SEVEN TO TEN DAYS BOTH TO SEE IF ANY FURTHER INTEREST IN THE ANDERSON COLUMNS DEVELOPED HERE AND TO GIVE PRESIDENT SOMOZA, WHOM SEVILLA-SACASA HAD DESCRIBED AS QUOTE DOWN-CAST UNQUOTE, A CHANCE TO RE-THINK THE SITUATION IN A CALMER MOOD. SEVILLA-SACASA PROMISED TO URGE THIS VIEW ON PRESIDENT SOMOZA.

4. FROM THE ADDITIONAL CONVERSATION BETWEEN SEVILLA-SACASA AND DEPARTMENT OFFICER AFTER LEAVING SECRETARY INGERSOLL'S OFFICE, IT SEEMS QUITE CLEAR THAT SEVILLA-SACASA HAS LITTLE HOPE OF BEING ABLE TO TURN OFF SOMOZA'S INITIATIVE. AT
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LEAST WE WILL PROBABLY GET A CHANCE TO SEE HIS PROPOSED LETTER IN DRAFT BEFORE HE ACTUALLY SENDS IT. INGERSOLL

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